



**RHODE ISLAND**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**  
**DIVISION OF FISH & WILDLIFE / MARINE FISHERIES**  
Three Fort Wetherill Road  
Jamestown, Rhode Island 02835



## **PUBLIC NOTICE CONCERNING PROPOSED REGULATORY CHANGES**

Pursuant to the provisions of Chapters 42-17.1 and 20-3 of the General Laws of Rhode Island as amended, and in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act Chapter 42-35 of the General Laws, the Director of the Department of Environmental Management (DEM) proposes amendments to the **Rhode Island Marine Fisheries Regulations (RIMFR)** and gives notice of intent to hold a public hearing to afford interested parties the opportunity for public comment.

The following regulatory items will be presented for public comment:

1. Proposed amendments to **RIMFR Part 3 – Finfish**, regarding:
  - a. Recreational black sea bass season and possession limit (section 3.14.1);
  - b. Commercial monkfish possession limit (section 3.21(C)).
2. Proposed amendments to **RIMFR Part 6 – General Equipment Provisions**.
3. Proposed amendments to **RIMFR-Part 7 – Dealers**.

The **PUBLIC HEARING** will be held at **6:00PM** on **Monday, June 12<sup>th</sup>** at the University of Rhode Island, Graduate School of Oceanography, Coastal Institute Building, Corless Auditorium, South Ferry Road, Narragansett, RI 02882.

The hearing room is accessible to the handicapped. The DEM will provide interpreter services for the hearing impaired, provided such a request is made at least 48 hours prior to the hearing date. A request for this service can be made in writing or by calling (401) 222-6800 for TDD (401) 831-5508.

The Department has determined that small businesses may be adversely impacted by the proposed regulations. Small businesses which are either currently licensed, or in the future may seek a license to harvest, buy, sell, or produce seafood products, as well as the small businesses that provide services related to those engaged in such industries, are requested to comment on the proposed regulations on how such proposed action can be changed to minimize the impact on those small businesses affected.

The public comment period closes at 4:00PM on Monday, June 19, 2017. Written comments may be submitted to the Marine Fisheries office at 3 Fort Wetherill Road, Jamestown, RI 02835

(Attn: Peter Duhamel) or emailed to [peter.duhamel@dem.ri.gov](mailto:peter.duhamel@dem.ri.gov). The proposed regulations have been filed with the Office of the Secretary of State's website at <http://sos.ri.gov/ProposedRules/> pursuant to RIGL Chapter 42-35, and are also available at the DEM Marine Fisheries webpage at <http://www.dem.ri.gov/programs/fish-wildlife/marine-fisheries/rimfc/index.php>, or by mail. A recording of the hearing will be made.

Jason McNamee,  
Chief

Filed with Sec. of State's office May 12, 2017